

House Resolution 1627

By: Representatives Smith of the 113th, Hembree of the 67th, Royal of the 171st, Rogers of the 26th, Lewis of the 15th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Committee for Making Georgia #1 in Education, a study committee of
2 the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia continues to strive to improve its education system; however, Georgia
4 has not yet reached #1 in the national education rankings; and

5 WHEREAS, although parts of the education system in Georgia are outstanding, this state is
6 still working toward becoming a national leader in educational opportunities and research
7 development; and

8 WHEREAS, only the best is good enough for Georgia's students, and the General Assembly
9 should not stop its journey to achieve greatness in education until Georgia is #1 in education
10 in the nation; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia's economic growth and standard of living are directly related to and
12 impacted by the quality of education provided in this state; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia offers a variety of public and private elementary, secondary, and
14 postsecondary educational opportunities for its citizens through its local K-12 education
15 systems, private schools, home school programs, universities, colleges, and technical
16 colleges; and

17 WHEREAS, closer scrutiny of the education system is needed by the Georgia General
18 Assembly to ensure that people are getting the best education possible for their education
19 dollar; and

20 WHEREAS, there is a need for increased communication, coordination, and cooperation
21 among these many important and contributing parts that make up Georgia's comprehensive
22 educational system so that each part may complement and contribute to the other, and each

1 stage of the system may help ensure that every student in Georgia reaches their maximum
2 educational potential.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
4 there is created the House Committee for Making Georgia #1 in Education. The Speaker of
5 the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of the House of Representatives as
6 members of the committee and shall designate one of such members as chairperson. The
7 committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
9 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
10 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee shall
11 specifically undertake to consider the following potential legislative proposals:

12 (1) Consolidation and reorganization of one or more educational boards, commissions,
13 divisions, or agencies for the purpose of streamlining the educational process and
14 ensuring that the needs of students and the employment market are best met;

15 (2) Measures to increase communication and coordination between educational divisions
16 such as the Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education, and the
17 Board of Education;

18 (3) Measures to increase communication and coordination between educational units and
19 private sector partners, including private businesses, foundations, researchers, developers,
20 farmers, investors, corporations, and industries;

21 (4) Advisory positions such as an Advisor of Emerging and Innovative Technology;
22 Advisor for Primary Education and Secondary Education; Advisor of Private Institutions
23 for private colleges, universities, and private K-12; and Advisors of Technical and Adult
24 Education; and

25 (5) The need for a greater voice by the people of this state through their elected district
26 representatives, particularly in selecting board members, such as members of the Board
27 of Regents and the Board of Technical and Adult Education.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee may conduct such meetings at such
29 places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully
30 and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes
31 of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized
32 for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not
33 more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out
34 the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of

1 Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
2 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
3 made on or before December 15, 2008. The committee shall stand abolished on December
4 31, 2008.